

served as Interim Chief of Police for several months in both 1998 and 2005 for the Police Department.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize Assistant Chief of Police John David Lynn's 34 years of dedicated service to the North Richland Hills Police Department and Community. I am proud to serve as his representative in Washington, D.C.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOHN B. BRIGHT

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John B. Bright for his service to our Nation's veterans.

John was appointed by the Veterans Health Administration as the Director of Veterans Affairs of the Southern Nevada Healthcare System in Las Vegas, Nevada on May 1, 2006. He was previously the Associate Director since May 6, 2005.

Prior to his appointment in Las Vegas, John was the Chief Financial Officer at the VA Facilities at Big Spring and Amarillo, Texas since 1998. He has also been the Chief Financial Officer at Phoenix, AZ and Reno, NV. He began his career in 1985 at the VA in Seattle, WA and served in management positions at VA Hospitals in Durham, NC, Prescott, AZ, Battle Creek, MI and San Antonio, TX. John is a Veteran who served in the United States Army from 1972 through 1975.

As Director of the Southern Nevada Healthcare System, John has continually advocated for the construction of the new Las Vegas Veterans Hospital Complex. John is devoted to our veterans in Southern Nevada and goes above and beyond to ensure that veterans receive care. He has always been a remarkable resource to the Congressional Delegation and their staff. Dedicated public servants like John understand the contributions that our Nation's veterans have made and are an indispensable component of the veterans' healthcare system.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor John B. Bright. His long and distinguished career in service to our Nation's veterans is commendable. I applaud him for all his hard work and success.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOHN L. CHURNETSKI, WILLARD G. KRESGE, AND LEE W. ECKERT, FOUNDERS OF QUAD THREE GROUP INC. IN WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to John L. Churnetski, Willard G. Kresge and Lee W. Eckert, founders of Quad Three Group, Inc. in Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania.

Quad Three Group is a full service architectural, engineering and environmental science firm that has grown from a single proprietorship in 1967 to a firm employing 70 people today in Wilkes-Barre, Scranton and Pittsburgh, PA.

From 1967 through 1987, the company was a multidiscipline professional engineering firm known as Utility Engineers which served a large number of architectural firms, commercial and industrial clients and municipalities. A large part of the firm's growth came from contracts with the U.S. Department of Defense.

In 1987, Utility Engineers, which had employed 35 people, merged with the largest architectural design firm in the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton area, Pyros and Sanderson, which employed 15 people, to form Quad Three Group, Inc.

Noteworthy regional projects they completed included Blue Cross Blue Shield of Northeastern Pennsylvania headquarters, Luzerne County Community College Technology Building, Penn State University Wilkes-Barre and Hazleton campuses, Martz Trailways Office Building, InterMetro Industries Corporate Headquarters Building, the environmental impact study for the Francis E. Walter Dam Hydroelectric Project, Newport, Rhode Island and Lakehurst, New Jersey Naval Base Utility System Upgrade and the \$85 million Steamtown Mall project in downtown Scranton.

They also completed the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard Base Re-Alignment and Closure project, ten major K-12 and higher education projects, the \$45 million Wachovia Arena at Casey Plaza and the \$30 million Mount Laurel Center for the Performing Arts.

Mr. Churnetski received his bachelor of science in mechanical engineering from Notre Dame University. Mr. Kresge received his bachelor of electrical engineering from Penn State University and Mr. Eckert received his bachelor of science in civil engineering from Penn State University. Between the three founders, they have 127 years of combined engineering experience.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating these three talented men who have distinguished themselves in the engineering world as well as in their northeastern Pennsylvania community. Their commitment to excellence and professionalism has benefited everyone associated with Quad Three Group and has contributed to improving the quality of life in the entire region.

TRIBUTE TO FIREFIGHTER PHIL PFISTER

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor one of my constituents, Charleston firefighter Phil Pfister on becoming the World's Strongest Man.

This award was bestowed after a long and arduous competition amongst 25 athletes from around the world. The ten day contest in Sanya, China included events such as bus pulls, car pushes, stone lifts, and tire turns.

Mr. Pfister, is the first American to win this competition in 24 years. After trailing in the early events, Mr. Pfister focused his strength,

discipline, and determination to win the final five events leading him to the title. His hard work and dedication during training certainly paid off.

Nonetheless, after all his glory of winning this prestigious competition, Mr. Pfister returned to West Virginia a few days later and promptly resumed his daily work of protecting our wonderful city of Charleston as a firefighter.

I am proud to honor Mr. Pfister for his accomplishments in the World's Strongest Man competition and his dedication to the Charleston community through his service as a fireman. West Virginia is truly fortunate to have him as a Mountaineer.

CONGRATULATING KEN SMITH ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE SANTA ROSA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and pay tribute to Ken Smith, who is retiring from the Santa Rosa County School Board after 28 years of service. Mr. Smith's dedication to his community and the education of its children is profound and commendable.

Mr. Smith was born in Bagdad, Florida. He first got active in the school system in Santa Rosa County when he volunteered at his children's schools as a PTA member. After serving as PTA President at Oakhurst Elementary, he was elected to his first term on the Santa Rosa County School Board in 1978. He is currently the second longest serving School Board member in the State of Florida, having served with 17 Board Members and 3 Superintendents. He has held the positions of Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board 7 times each.

Through the years, Mr. Smith has served on several Board committees, most notably the Vocational Committee, working with the State to acquire the Locklin Technical Center, the first and only vocational center located in Santa Rosa County. He has also been active in the Lions Club, Optimist Club, and the Ferris Hill Baptist Church.

Mr. Smith's effort to better Santa Rosa County schools is admirable. His devotion to the education of the children of his community is inspirational. I congratulate him on his accomplishments and his retirement.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO PRIVATE FIRST CLASS PHILLIP B. WILLIAMS

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of United States Army Private First Class Phillip B. Williams who was killed on October 9, 2006, in Baghdad, Iraq, while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Private First Class Williams was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company,